

RADICAL ISLAMIC TERRORIST ATTACKS AND PLOTS

IN THE UNITED STATES SINCE 9/11

I. Successful Attacks

- July 4, 2002: Hesham Mohamed Hadayet, a 41-year-old Egyptian national, shot and killed two Israelis and wounded four others at the El Al ticket counter at Los Angeles International Airport. Although the FBI did not find evidence linking Hadayet to a terrorist group, the agency concluded the shooting was an act of terrorism because of Hadayet's stated anti-Israel views and opposition to U.S. Middle East policy.¹
- March 5, 2006: Mohammed Reza Taheri-Azar injured six people when he drove a Sport Utility Vehicle into a group of pedestrians at the UNC-Chapel Hill campus. Taheri-Azar claimed to have conducted the attack in order to avenge the killing of Muslims around the world by the U.S. government.²
- July 28, 2006: Naveed Afzal Haq shot and killed one woman, and wounded five others, at the Jewish Federation building in Seattle, Washington. During the shooting, Haq spoke with a 911 dispatcher and said "these are Jews and I'm tired of getting pushed around and our people getting pushed around by the situation in the Middle East."³
- June 1, 2009: Abdulhakim Mujahid Muhammad shot two military recruiters at a Little Rock, Arkansas Army/Navy Career Center, killing one and seriously wounding the other. Muhammad had previously converted to Islam and spent approximately 16 months, beginning in 2007, in Yemen. Although no independent, public confirmation of Muhammad's ties to Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula exists, Muhammad wrote to the judge in his case stating that he was "a soldier" of Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula and undertook his attack as revenge for U.S. killing of Muslims in Iraq and Afghanistan.⁴
- November 5, 2009: Nidal Malik Hasan, a U.S. Army Major serving as a psychiatrist, shot and killed 13 people and wounded several dozen others at Fort Hood, Texas. Hasan stated that his motive was jihad to fight "illegal and immoral aggression against Muslims" in Iraq and Afghanistan. Hasan had earlier exchanged 18 e-mails with Anwar al-Awlaki, an important, U.S.-born leader of Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula.⁵

¹ <http://www.cnn.com/2003/US/West/04/12/airport.shooting/>.

² http://web.archive.org/web/20080828181941/http://www.newsobserver.com/news/crime_safety/story/1194179.html.

³ <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/07/29/AR2006072901032.html>.

⁴ <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/01/22/us/22littlerock.html?hp&r=0>.

⁵ https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/nidal-hasan-convicted-of-fort-hood-killings/2013/08/23/39c468c8-0c03-11e3-9941-6711ed662e71_story.html.

- April 15, 2013: Tamerlan Tsarnaev and his younger brother, Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, detonated two bombs within moments of each other near the finish line of the Boston Marathon, killing three people and injuring hundreds more.⁶ Although the brothers were motivated by radical Islam to carry out the attacks, they did not appear to have had any direct ties to Islamic terrorist organizations.⁷
- October 23, 2014: Zale Thompson attacked four New York City police officers with a hatchet, injuring two of them (one critically) at a Queens, New York shopping district. The police shot and killed Thompson, and a bystander was injured in the process. Thompson appears to have been a self-radicalized Muslim convert who had posted "anti-government, anti-Western, anti-white" messages online.⁸
- May 3, 2015: Elton Simpson and Nadir Soofi began shooting outside the Curtis Culwell Center in Garland, Texas during an art exhibit hosted by an anti-Muslim group called the American Freedom Defense Initiative. The center was hosting an exhibition of cartoon adaptations depicting the Islamic Prophet Muhammad. The pair shot and injured a security guard before being killed by a police officer. The Islamic State of Iraq and Syria subsequently claimed responsibility for the attack, though the group did not provide evidence of how it was involved with the shooters or in the attack.⁹
- July 16, 2015: Muhammad Youssef Abdulazeez – who reportedly had been in various locations in the Middle East for nearly seven months last year – shot at government personnel in two military installations in Chattanooga, Tennessee, first through a drive-by shooting at a recruiting center, then by traveling to a naval reserve center and continuing to fire. Before being killed by police, Abdulazeez killed four Marines, and wounded another Marine, a Navy sailor, and a police officer. The Navy sailor died from his wounds two days later.¹⁰ The FBI is investigating the attack as an act of terrorism.¹¹

II. Unsuccessful Attacks and Plots

- December 22, 2001: British citizen Richard Reid attempted to detonate explosives packed in his shoes while on a flight from Paris to Miami. The airplane's crew and passengers subdued him, and the plane landed safely in Boston. Reid had previously received training at Al-Qaeda terrorist camps in Afghanistan.¹²

⁶ <http://www.cnn.com/2015/04/08/us/boston-marathon-bombing-trial/index.html>.

⁷ <http://news.sky.com/story/1081664/boston-bomb-suspects-condition-fair>.

⁸ <http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/10/24/us-usa-newyork-hatchet-idUSKCN0IC2RG20141024#Q3aQw3bFaI5Zcctx.97>.

⁹ <http://www.msnbc.com/msnbc/draw-muhammad-shooting-what-we-know>.

¹⁰ <http://www.cnn.com/2015/07/16/us/tennessee-naval-reserve-shooting>.

¹¹ <http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/07/18/us-usa-shooting-tennessee-idUSKCN0PQ1WY20150718#pTedbfw6PW1jYfrh.97>.

¹² <http://content.time.com/time/world/article/0,8599,203478-1,00.html>.

- May 8, 2002: José Padilla was arrested at Chicago's O'Hare International Airport and subsequently accused of plotting to attack the United States with a radiological weapon (a "dirty bomb"). He had previously spent several years in the Middle East, and the U.S. government produced evidence at his trial indicating he had attended an Al-Qaeda training camp in Afghanistan.¹³
- May 1, 2003: Iyman Faris pled guilty to providing material support to Al-Qaeda and providing information to Al-Qaeda about potential targets in the United States – including a bridge in New York City.¹⁴
- August 2004: A group of men in the United Kingdom, led by Al-Qaeda "member or close associate" Dhiren Barot, were arrested for being part of an Al-Qaeda plan to bomb the International Monetary Fund, New York Stock Exchange, Citigroup and Prudential buildings in the United States, as well as targets in the United Kingdom. Barot had earlier scouted the American targets while visiting the United States in 2000 and 2001.¹⁵
- August 2004: Shahawar Matin Siraj and James Elshafay were arrested after conducting surveillance at the Herald Square subway station in Manhattan. The pair were planning to attack the station with explosives in response to actions by American military forces in Iraq.¹⁶
- August 31, 2005: Kevin James, Hammad Samana, Gregory Patterson, and Levar Washington were indicted on charges to wage war against the United States through terrorist activities. The men planned attacks against targets including American military and Jewish institutions, located in Southern California.¹⁷
- November 24, 2006: Uzair Paracha was convicted of conspiring to help an Al-Qaeda operative member suspected of planning bombing attacks in Maryland to enter the United States. Paracha was later sentenced to 30 years in prison.¹⁸
- June 23, 2006: Seven men, known as the "Liberty City Seven," were arrested for being involved in a plot to blow up the Sears Tower in Chicago as part of an Islamic jihad.

¹³ <http://www.nytimes.com/2007/07/13/us/nationalspecial3/13padilla.html>.

¹⁴ http://www.justice.gov/archive/opa/pr/2003/October/03_crm_589.htm.

¹⁵ http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/6122270.stm;
<http://web.archive.org/web/20070626074907/http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/5738292/site/newsweek/>.

¹⁶ http://www.nyc.gov/html/nypd/html/pr/plots_targeting_nyc.shtml.

¹⁷ http://archive.adl.org/main_terrorism/los_angeles_sentenced.html#.VkTncrerSUK;
<http://query.nytimes.com/gst/fullpage.html?res=9A0CE0D81631F937A15752C1A9639C8B63>.

¹⁸ http://www.nyc.gov/html/nypd/html/pr/plots_targeting_nyc.shtml.

Attorney General Gonzales stated later that year that the plotters had promised to fight “a full ground war against the United States.”¹⁹

- July 7, 2006: Three men were arrested in Lebanon for plotting to bomb transit tunnels underneath the Hudson River in New York City. The men intended that the New York financial district would then be flooded. The FBI discovered the plot and gathered information on it through emails and chat-room postings on web forums used to recruit Islamic terrorists.²⁰
- December 8, 2006: Derrick Shareef was charged with plotting to detonate hand grenades at a shopping mall in Illinois during the Christmas shopping season. Shareef was a Muslim convert who reportedly had discussed his desire to wage jihad against civilians and had also spoken of attacking government facilities.²¹
- 2007: Sabrihan Hasanoff and Wessam Hanafi, beginning in 2007 and at the direction of Al-Qaeda members in Yemen performed surveillance on several potential targets, including the New York Stock Exchange, for future terrorist attacks in the United States. El-Hanafi forwarded the report to Al-Qaeda.²²
- May 2007: Six men planned to kill American soldiers at Fort Dix, New Jersey, but were arrested before they could do so.²³ This plot is popularly known as the “Fort Dix Six” plot, and the men appear to have been inspired by Jihadi videos.²⁴
- June 3, 2007: Four men were indicted for plotting to blow up jet-fuel tanks and a fuel pipeline at John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York City. Assistant Attorney General Kenneth Wainstein said that the men “sought to combine an insider’s knowledge of JFK airport with the assistance of Islamic radicals in the Caribbean to produce” a “devastating attack.”²⁵
- January 28, 2009: Bryant Neal Vinas pleaded guilty to joining Al-Qaeda and developing a plan with Al-Qaeda leadership to conduct an attack on the Long Island Railroad in New York.²⁶
- February 26, 2009: Christopher Paul, also known as Abdul Malek, was sentenced for conspiring to use weapons of mass destruction against targets in Europe and the United

¹⁹ <http://www.nytimes.com/2009/05/13/us/13miami.html?ref=global-home>.

²⁰ http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/07/07/AR2006070700361_pf.html/.

²¹ <http://www.nbcnews.com/id/16110298/#.Vko-irerSUK>.

²² http://www.nyc.gov/html/nypd/html/pr/plots_targeting_nyc.shtml.

²³ <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/05/08/AR2007050800465.html>.

²⁴ <http://www.nytimes.com/2008/12/22/nyregion/23fortdix.html?ref=nyregion>.

²⁵ http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/06/02/AR2007060200606_pf.html.

²⁶ <http://www.nytimes.com/2009/07/23/nyregion/23terror.html>.

States. Paul, who had received terrorist training at overseas terrorist camps in Afghanistan, and had subsequently joined Al-Qaeda, had worked with an Islamic terror cell in Europe to prepare to attack targets in the United States.²⁷

- May 20, 2009: Four men were arrested for plotting to bomb Jewish synagogues in New York City after they had planted what they thought were bombs near two synagogues. The men also allegedly planned to shoot down U.S. military planes operating out of Stewart Air National Guard Base in Newburgh, New York. The men were apparently angry over the U.S.-led war in Afghanistan, and one told an FBI informant that he'd be interested in joining a Pakistan-based terrorist group "to do jihad."²⁸
- September 2009: Daniel Patrick Boyd and Hysen Sherifi were charged with plotting to kill U.S. military personnel at the Quantico marine base in Virginia. They had undertaken reconnaissance of the base and had practiced attacking the base in July. Boyd, along with several other suspects, had earlier been charged with international terrorism charges in August, but those charges did not concern attacks in the United States. Prosecutors played a tape during Boyd's detention hearing where he decried the U.S. military, decried the struggle of Muslims, and mentioned the honor of martyrdom.²⁹
- September 2009: Najibullah Zazi, and later Adis Medunjanin and Zarein Ahmedzay, were arrested for planning to conduct suicide attacks with homemade explosives in the New York City subway system. All three had received weapons training from Al-Qaeda in Afghanistan, and Zazi admitted in court that he was trained by Al-Qaeda to be part of a "martyrdom operation." Evidence indicates that senior Al-Qaeda officials ordered the attacks.³⁰ According to the indictment against Medunjanin, before being arrested for the planned subway attacks, on January 7, 2010, Medunjanin attempted to conduct an attack in New York City by intentionally crashing his car on the Whitestone Expressway.³¹
- September 24, 2009: Michael Finton, also known as Talib Islam, was arrested and charged for attempting to kill federal employees by detonating a car bomb at the federal building in Springfield, Illinois. He was arrested after he attempted to detonate what he thought was the bomb, but which was in fact a fake bomb. Finton reportedly idolized (and had written to) American-born Taliban member John Walker Lindh.³²
- September 24, 2009: Hosam Maher Husein Smadi, an illegal immigrant from Jordan, was arrested for placing, with the intent to detonate, what he thought was a car bomb outside

²⁷ <http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/ohio-man-sentenced-20-years-terrorism-conspiracy-bomb-targets-europe-and-united-states>.

²⁸ <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/8060684.stm>.

²⁹ http://www.nbcnews.com/id/33010307/ns/us_news-security/#.VktXyLerSUk.

³⁰ http://archive.adl.org/main_terrorism/najibullah_zazi_indicted.html#.Vju3gLdY5Bd.

³¹ <http://www.scribd.com/doc/34015961/Indictment-Alleged-al-Qaeda-subway-plot>.

³² http://www.nbcnews.com/id/33009656/ns/us_news-security/t/man-accused-trying-bomb-dallas-building/#.VktZxberSUk.

of the 60-story Fountain Place office tower in Dallas, Texas. FBI undercover agents met with Smadi over several months while posing as members of an Al-Qaeda sleeper cell. According to the FBI, Smadi “stood out based on his vehement intention to actually conduct terror attacks in the United States.”³³

- December 14, 2009: Ehsanul Islam Sadequee and Syed Haris Ahmed were sentenced for their earlier terrorism convictions in support of terrorism. Among other activities, Sadequee and Ahmed had driven to and taken videos – for use by “the jihadi brothers abroad” with whom the pair were connected via the internet – of targets in Washington, DC., including the U.S. Capitol, the World Bank, the Masonic Temple, and a fuel tank farm.³⁴
- December 25, 2009: Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, a Nigerian citizen, attempted to blow up the commercial airliner he was flying on over Detroit by igniting high explosives concealed in his underpants.³⁵ Several days later, Al-Qaeda's affiliate in Yemen and Saudi Arabia claimed responsibility for the attempted attack.³⁶ Abdulmutallab later plead to the charges against him and read a statement in court saying “I attempted to use an explosive device which in the U.S. law is a weapon of mass destruction, which I call a blessed weapon to save the lives of innocent Muslims, for U.S. use of weapons of mass destruction on Muslim populations in Afghanistan, Iraq, Yemen and beyond.”³⁷
- May 1, 2010: Faisal Shahzad attempted, but failed, to detonate a car bomb in Times Square in New York City. Evidence indicated that the Pakistani Taliban was behind the attempted attack, and that Shahzad was in contact with the group via the internet while living in the United States. Shahzad was attempting to flee the country through a flight to the Middle East when arrested.³⁸
- May 2010: Paul and Nadia Rockwood, from King Salmon, Alaska, were arrested for lying to the FBI about having compiled a list of 20 domestic terrorism targets, including members of the U.S. military, the media, and two religious organizations. The couple had also begun to acquire components for mail bombs. Rockwood, who had earlier

³³ http://www.nbcnews.com/id/33009656/ns/us_news-security/t/man-accused-trying-bomb-dallas-building/#.VktZxberSUK.

³⁴ <http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/terrorism-defendants-sentenced-atlanta>.

³⁵ <http://www.cbsnews.com/news/suspect-charged-in-airline-bombing-attempt/>.

³⁶ http://archive.adl.org/main_terrorism/christmas_day_bomber.html?Multi_page_sections=sHeading_1#.VjvCkLdY5Bc.

³⁷ <http://www.nytimes.com/2011/10/13/us/umar-farouk-abdulmutallab-pleads-guilty-in-plane-bomb-attempt.html>.

³⁸ <http://articles.latimes.com/2010/may/10/nation/la-na-ny-bomb-20100510>.

converted to Islam and was studying the writings of Anwar al-Awlaki,³⁹ sought to “exact revenge by death on anyone who desecrated Islam.”⁴⁰

- October 20, 2010: Zachary Adam Chesser, a supporter of designated foreign terrorist organization Al-Shabaab, pleaded guilty to charges that included soliciting other jihadists online to murder U.S. citizens in the United States. Among other things, he pleaded guilty to taking specific, repeated steps to encourage jihadists to attack the writers of an American television show for the way the show had depicted Muhammad.⁴¹
- October 27, 2010: Farooque Ahmed, a naturalized U.S. citizen, was arrested for plotting to bomb multiple Washington, D.C. metro stations. Ahmed believed he was conspiring with Al-Qaeda operatives in plotting the attacks.⁴²
- November 26, 2010: Mohamed Osman Mohamud, a Somali-American, attempted to wage jihad by trying to ignite what he thought was a real bomb, but which was a fake bomb supplied by an undercover officer, at a Christmas tree lighting ceremony in Portland, Oregon. Among other statements Mohamud made regarding the attacks, he said “I want whoever is attending that event to leave, to leave either dead or injured.”⁴³
- December 8, 2010: Antonio Martinez, also known as Muhammad Hussain, was arrested after a sting operation for plotting to blow up the Armed Forces Career Center in Catonsville, Maryland. Martinez, a Muslim convert, was motivated to plot the attack because he was upset that the U.S. and other militaries were fighting Muslims.⁴⁴
- February 24, 2011: Khalid Ali-M Aldawsari, a Saudi Arabian student in the United States, was arrested for planning and having begun to build bombs for use in various terrorist attacks in America. Targets of the attacks included former President George W. Bush’s home, hydroelectric dams, nuclear power plants, nightclubs, and the homes of American soldiers who had been stationed in Iraq at the Abu Ghraib prison.⁴⁵ Aldawsari described in his journal, as well as on blog postings, his desire for violent jihad.⁴⁶
- May 11, 2011: Ahmed Ferhani, a native of Algeria, and Mohamed Mamdouh were arrested for plotting to attack Jewish synagogues in New York City. The pair were

³⁹ <http://www.foxnews.com/us/2010/08/16/feds-alaska-couple-accused-domestic-terrorism-names-hit-lit/>.

⁴⁰ <http://articles.latimes.com/2010/jul/23/nation/la-na-adv-alaska-terrorists-20100723-1>.

⁴¹ <http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/virginia-man-pleads-guilty-providing-material-support-foreign-terrorist-organization-and>.

⁴² http://voices.washingtonpost.com/blog-post/2010/10/the_metro_bomb_the_fbi_and_the.html.

⁴³ <http://content.time.com/time/nation/article/0,8599,2033372,00.html>.

⁴⁴ http://www.cnn.com/2010/CRIME/12/08/maryland.plot/index.html?eref=time_us.

⁴⁵ <http://www.nytimes.com/2011/02/25/us/25terror.html?src=mv&mtrref=undefined&gwh=6F4A611EB7C55A267B0172D202F0BD14&gwt=pay>.

⁴⁶ <http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/texas-resident-arrested-charge-attempted-use-weapon-mass-destruction>.

arrested after purchasing several handguns and one grenade. The two were said to be “committed to violent jihad.”⁴⁷

- June 23, 2011: Abu Khalid Abdul-Latif and Walli Mujahidh were arrested after purchasing machine guns and grenades for the purpose of conducting a suicide attack against a federal building housing the Military Entrance Processing Station in Seattle. The pair’s motive was to conduct physical jihad in the United States, as they were upset about U.S. military activities in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Yemen.⁴⁸
- July 14, 2011: Emerson Winfield Begolly was indicted for repeatedly soliciting Islamic extremists to conduct terrorist attacks against Americans inside the United States, as well as for posting bomb-making instructions on the Internet.⁴⁹
- July 27, 2011: Naser Jason Abdo, a U.S. Army Private who had been Absent Without Leave (AWOL), was arrested in a plot against Fort Hood, Texas. He was found with jihadist materials, weapons, explosives instructions, and materials. The explosives instructions were from an Al-Qaeda explosives course manual.⁵⁰
- September 28, 2011: Rezwan Ferdaus was arrested, following an FBI undercover operation, and charged for plotting to use a remote-controlled aircraft filled with explosives to attack the U.S. Capitol and the Pentagon. Ferdaus planned to commit violent jihad with the materials, and hoped to cause a “psychological impact” by killing Americans – who he referred to as “enemies of Allah.”⁵¹
- November 20, 2011: Jose Pimentel was arrested for building and plotting to detonate pipe bombs in and around New York City. Pimentel’s intended targets included U.S. military personnel who had served in Iraq and Afghanistan, U.S. postal facilities, and police.⁵² Pimentel was described as an “Al-Qaeda sympathizer,” though he is believed to have worked on his plot alone.⁵³
- January 7, 2012: Sami Osmakac, a naturalized U.S. citizen from Kosovo, was arrested for plotting to use weapons and explosives “to create mayhem” in Tampa, Florida. He planned to conduct a car bombing, then take hostages, and to finally detonate a suicide

⁴⁷ http://www.cnn.com/2011/CRIME/05/12/new.york.terror.arrests/index.html?eref=time_us.

⁴⁸ <http://www.seattlepi.com/local/article/Seattle-man-implicated-in-plot-to-blow-up-1437405.php>.

⁴⁹ <http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/pennsylvania-man-indicted-soliciting-jihadists-kill-americans>.

⁵⁰ <http://www.foxnews.com/us/2011/07/28/exclusive-us-military-serviceman-arrested-in-second-alleged-attack-on-ft-hood/#ixzz1TRKAc2EQ>.

⁵¹ <http://www.justice.gov/archive/usao/ma/news/2011/September/PressReleaseSept-28-11.html>.

⁵² <http://www.nytimes.com/2011/11/21/nyregion/jose-pimentel-is-charged-in-new-york-city-bomb-plot.html?mtrref=undefined&gwh=329BA1A6DD96F5BCB5FF35A68B80FA8B&gwt=pay>.

⁵³ https://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/blogpost/post/who-is-jose-pimentellone-wolf-arrested-in-ny-bomb-plot/2011/11/21/gIAFwduhN_blog.html.

belt he would be wearing. Osmakac told an FBI undercover agent that “We all have to die, so why not die the Islamic way?”⁵⁴

- February 9, 2012: Jesse Curtis Morton pled guilty for using the Revolution Muslim Organization’s Internet sites to, among other terrorist activities, radicalize Muslims and solicit murder online. He worked with Zachary Chesser to call for attacks against the writers of an American television show that had portrayed Muhammad in a bear suit.⁵⁵
- February 17, 2012: Amine El Khalifi, a Moroccan who was illegally inside the United States, was arrested following an FBI sting operation for plotting to carry out a suicide bombing inside the U.S. Capitol building. When arrested near the Capitol, Khalifi was carrying what he believed to be a loaded automatic weapon and a suicide vest.⁵⁶
- September 15, 2012: Adel Daoud was arrested, following an FBI undercover investigation, for attempting to detonate what he thought was a car bomb in front of a bar in Chicago. Daoud had earlier expressed his interest online in engaging in violent jihad in the United States or overseas.⁵⁷
- October 17, 2012: Quazi Mohammad Rezwanul Ahsan Nafis, a Bangladeshi, was arrested following a sting operation for plotting to bomb the Federal Reserve Bank in Manhattan. He was arrested after attempting to detonate what he thought was a 1,000 pound bomb near the door of the bank.⁵⁸ Nafis undertook his plot on behalf of “our beloved Sheikh Osama bin Laden.”⁵⁹
- November 29, 2012: Raees Alam Qazi and his brother, Sheheryar Alam Qazi, both naturalized U.S. citizens of Pakistani descent, were arrested for plotting to attack New York City, possibly at Times Square. Raees, inspired by Al-Qaeda (members of which he had tried to contact) had recently traveled to New York to attempt to obtain explosives for the attack.⁶⁰
- December 13, 2013: Terry Lee Loewen, an avionics technician, was arrested following an FBI sting operation for attempting to explode a car bomb in a suicide attack at the

⁵⁴ <http://www.cnn.com/2012/02/09/us/florida-terror-plea/index.html>.

⁵⁵ <http://www.justice.gov/archive/usao/vae/news/2012/02/20120209mortonnr.html>.

⁵⁶ https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/federal-agents-arrest-man-who-allegedly-planned-suicide-bombing-on-us-capitol/2012/02/17/gIQAtYZ7JR_story.html.

⁵⁷ <https://www.fbi.gov/chicago/press-releases/2012/hillside-man-arrested-after-fbi-undercover-investigation-on-federal-charges-for-attempting-to-bomb-downtown-chicago-bar>.

⁵⁸ <http://newyork.cbslocal.com/2013/08/09/quazi-nafis-to-be-sentenced-in-federal-reserve-bank-bomb-plot-case/>.

⁵⁹ <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/northamerica/usa/9617009/New-York-Fed-bomb-plot-how-Quazi-Ahsan-Nafis-became-radicalised.html>.

⁶⁰ <http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/florida-terrorism-suspect-planned-york-attack-feds/story?id=18008823>.

Wichita Mid-Continent Airport in Wichita, Kansas.⁶¹ Loewen is a Muslim-convert who had said to an FBI employee that “I have become ‘radicalized’ in the strongest sense of the word, and I don’t feel Allah wants me any other way.”⁶²

- September 15, 2014: Mufid A. Elgeeh was charged with encouraging and helping prepare two other people to go to Syria and join ISIS. He had also allegedly plotted to shoot U.S. military members in the United States who had returned from Iraq. Elgeeh was arrested after purchasing two handguns, ammunition, and silencers.⁶³
- January 14, 2015: Christopher Lee Cornell was arrested for plotting to attack the U.S. Capitol and kill government officials.⁶⁴ Cornell also allegedly expressed a desire to support ISIS, and he had posted videos and messages on social media supporting violent jihad.⁶⁵
- February 25, 2015: Abdurasul Hasanovich Juraboev was charged for offering online to kill the U.S. President if ordered by ISIS. He, along with Akhror Saidakhmetov, allegedly then planned to travel to Syria to wage jihad on behalf of ISIS.⁶⁶
- April 2, 2015: Noelle Velentzas and Asia Siddiqui were arrested, following a sting operation, for plotting to detonate explosives in the United States. The two allegedly discussed possible targets online and had acquired both multiple propane tanks and instructions on how to turn the tanks into bombs. Siddiqui had allegedly contacted members of Al-Qaeda on repeated occasions.⁶⁷
- April 3, 2015: Hasan R. Edmonds, a member of the Illinois National Guard, and his cousin, Jonas M. Edmonds, were indicted for conspiring to provide material support to ISIS, including plotting to attack a military base in Illinois. The alleged plot involved Hasan leaving the country and Jones using Hasan's uniform to gain access. Hasan allegedly planned to travel to join ISIS while Jonas attacked the base.⁶⁸
- April 10, 2015: John T. Booker was arrested, after a sting operation, for allegedly trying to detonate a car bomb at the Fort Riley military base in Kansas on behalf of ISIS.

⁶¹ <http://www.justice.gov/sites/default/files/nsd/legacy/2014/07/23/12132013-1315%20NSD.pdf>.

⁶² <http://www.nbcnews.com/news/other/feds-say-they-disrupted-suicide-bomb-plot-worker-wichita-airport-f2D11741897>.

⁶³ <https://www.fbi.gov/buffalo/press-releases/2014/rochester-man-indicted-on-charges-of-attempting-to-provide-material-support-to-isis-attempting-to-kill-u.s.-soldiers-and-possession-of-firearms-and-silencers>.

⁶⁴ <http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/cincinnati-area-man-arrested-plot-attack-us-government-officers>.

⁶⁵ <http://www.cnn.com/2015/01/15/us/capitol-attack-plot/>.

⁶⁶ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/national/isis-suspects/>.

⁶⁷ <http://www.nbcnewyork.com/news/local/Terror-Arrest-New-York-FBI-NYPD-Police-297422441.html>.

⁶⁸ <http://www.militarytimes.com/story/military/crime/2015/04/03/chicago-area-cousins-indicted-in-alleged-terrorist-plot/25267119/>.

Booker allegedly had spent months discussing different plans of attack before deciding on a suicide attack against the base, and had begun acquiring components for a vehicle bomb before becoming the subject of the FBI operation. He also allegedly repeatedly stated that he wished to engage in violent jihad on behalf of ISIS.⁶⁹

- June 12, 2015: David Wright and Nicholas Rovinski were charged with conspiring to commit attacks against persons inside the United States, which was intended to further ISIS's objectives and therefore constituted material support to that group. Wright and Rovinski also allegedly intended to behead a man who had organized a conference in Garland, Texas that featured cartoons depicting Muhammad. Moreover, Wright and Rovinski allegedly conspired with Usaamah Abdullah Rahim – Wright's uncle – who was shot and killed after attacking police officers.⁷⁰ The FBI stated that Rahim had been under surveillance because he had bought fighting knives and spoken of imminently attacking "boys in blue." Rahim, when confronted by the police on a sidewalk, menaced the officers with a military-style knife before shooting him when he refused to drop the knife.⁷¹
- June 17, 2015: Fareed Mumuni and Munther Omar Saleh were arrested for allegedly conspiring to attempt to assist ISIS in committing a terrorist attack in the New York area. Mumuni and Saleh allegedly charged, with knives, at law enforcement officers who were trying to arrest them. Mumuni also allegedly told authorities that he had pledged his support to ISIS.⁷²
- June 19, 2015: Robert McCollum, who changed his name to Amir Said Abdul Rahman Al-Ghazi, was charged with, among other offenses, attempting to provide material support to ISIS. He allegedly had pledged his support to ISIS via social media, took steps to create propaganda for the group, and had tried to persuade others to join ISIS too. He allegedly had also expressed his desire to conduct an attack on the United States, and had attempted to purchase an assault rifle.⁷³
- July 13, 2015: Alexander Ciccolo was arrested on gun charges after purchasing two pistols and two rifles from an undercover FBI informant. His apartment allegedly was loaded with bomb-making equipment and jihadi paperwork. Ciccolo allegedly had planned to travel to a town with a state university where he could attack students at the college. Ciccolo was turned in by his father, who said his son was inspired by ISIS, had

⁶⁹ <https://www.fbi.gov/kansascity/press-releases/2015/topeka-kansas-man-charged-in-plot-to-explode-car-bomb-at-military-base>.

⁷⁰ <http://www.justice.gov/usao-ma/pr/two-men-charged-conspiracy-provide-material-support-islamic-state>.

⁷¹ <http://news.yahoo.com/police-man-shot-dead-lunged-police-officer-fbi-063345527.html>.

⁷² <http://www.nbcnewyork.com/news/local/Terror-Probe-Investigation-Dienst-Statens-Island-New-York-Joint-Terrorism-Task-Force-FBI-Agents-ISIS-al-Qaeda-307916171.html>.

⁷³ <https://www.fbi.gov/cleveland/press-releases/2015/u.s.-citizen-arrested-for-attempting-to-provide-material-support-to-isil-and-other-federal-offenses>.

said he is “not afraid to die for the cause,” and reportedly characterized America as “Satan” and “disgusting.”⁷⁴

- July 28, 2015: Miguel Moran Diaz was sentenced to prison for being a felon in possession of a firearm. He had previously expressed sympathies for ISIS and had in fact called himself a “lone wolf” for ISIS. The FBI stated that “[t]his is not a scenario where law enforcement can afford to wait and see what happens next.”⁷⁵
- July 28, 2015: Harlem Suarez was charged with attempting to use a weapon of mass destruction against a person or property within the United States. Suarez came to law enforcement attention following Facebook posts he made with Islamic extremist rhetoric and promoting ISIS. Suarez allegedly had told a confidential FBI source that he wanted to make a “timer bomb,” which was to include galvanized nails and for which he had purchased components, to be buried and detonated at a beach in Key West, Florida.⁷⁶
- November 12, 2015: Terrence McNeil was arrested in Ohio for soliciting the murder of members of the U.S. military. He had disseminated ISIS rhetoric and detailed U.S. military personnel information for 100 military members, then called on fellow terrorists to kill the military personnel in their homes and communities.⁷⁷

III. Criminal Cases Involving Individuals in the United States Attempting to Join ISIS

- March 17, 2014: Nicholas Teausant was charged with attempting to provide material support to ISIS after traveling to Canada allegedly in the belief he could meet someone who would help him get to Syria. Teausant was a member of the National Guard and had allegedly posted online a message stating “Lol I been part of the army for two years now and I would love to join Allah’s army but I don’t even know how to start.”⁷⁸
- April 1, 2014: Akba Jihad Jordan and Avin Marsalis Brown were charged with, and subsequently pleaded guilty to, providing material support to terrorists. They had both discussed with FBI confidential sources their desire to join terrorist groups – of which ISIS was one – in the Middle East to fight non-Muslims and hypocritical Muslims.⁷⁹

⁷⁴ <http://abcnews.go.com/US/officials-son-boston-police-captain-arrested-terrorist/story?id=32414150>.

⁷⁵ <https://www.fbi.gov/miami/press-releases/2015/miami-resident-and-isis-sympathizer-sentenced-to-10-years-in-prison-for-illegally-possessing-a-firearm>.

⁷⁶ <http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/florida-resident-charged-attempting-use-weapon-mass-destruction>.

⁷⁷ <http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/ohio-man-arrested-soliciting-murder-members-us-military>.

⁷⁸ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/national/isis-suspects/>.

⁷⁹ <http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/raleigh-man-pleads-guilty-conspiring-provide-material-support-terrorism>.

- June 18, 2014: Michael Todd Wolfe was arrested while trying to board a flight, allegedly on the way to Syria to join ISIS.⁸⁰
- September 10, 2014: Shannon Conley pled guilty to conspiring to provide material support to ISIS. She had worked to be able to travel to and join her fiancé, an active member of ISIS.⁸¹
- October 6, 2014: Mohammed Hamzah Khan was arrested and charged with attempting to join ISIS. He was arrested at the airport before attempting to fly to Istanbul. A search of his home turned up documents, apparently in his handwriting, expressing support for ISIS and referencing jihad.⁸²
- October 30, 2014: Donald Ray Morgan pleaded guilty to providing material support to ISIS, after he allegedly tried at least one time to travel from Lebanon to Syria to join the group.⁸³
- November 25, 2014: Abdi Nur and Abdullahi Yusuf were charged with providing material support to ISIS for allegedly attempting to travel from Minnesota to the Middle East to join the group.⁸⁴
- December 3, 2014: Yusra Ismail was charged in absentia with stealing a passport allegedly in order to travel to Syria. Since stealing the passport, she appears to in fact have joined ISIS in Syria or Iraq.⁸⁵
- January 16, 2015: Tairod Nathan Webster Pugh was arrested for allegedly attempting to travel to Syria to fight with ISIS. Pugh is a U.S. Air Force veteran.⁸⁶

⁸⁰ <https://www.fbi.gov/sanantonio/press-releases/2014/federal-grand-jury-indicts-rahatul-khan-and-michael-wolfe-for-allegedly-attempting-to-provide-material-support-to-terrorists>.

⁸¹ <https://www.fbi.gov/denver/press-releases/2014/arvada-woman-pleads-guilty-to-conspiracy-to-provide-material-support-to-a-designated-foreign-terrorist-organization>.

⁸² <https://www.fbi.gov/chicago/press-releases/2014/fbi-arrests-suburban-chicago-man-for-allegedly-attempting-to-support-terrorism-overseas>.

⁸³ <http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/north-carolina-man-pleads-guilty-attempting-aid-international-terrorist-organization>.

⁸⁴ <http://www.justice.gov/usao-mn/pr/two-minnesotans-charged-conspiracy-provide-material-support-islamic-state-iraq-and-levant>.

⁸⁵ <http://www.startribune.com/st-paul-woman-charged-with-stealing-passport-to-travel-to-syria/284520161/>.

⁸⁶ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/national/isis-suspects/>.

- February 4, 2015: Hamza Naj Ahmed was accused of trying to join ISIS but was stopped at JFK Airport in New York City before he could board a plane to Istanbul.⁸⁷
- February 6, 2015: Nihad Rosic, a naturalized U.S. citizen who was born in Bosnia was charged with providing material support to ISIS. Rosic allegedly had earlier tried to board a flight from New York to Syria to join in the fighting.⁸⁸
- March 4, 2015: Adam Dandich was charged with attempting to provide material support to ISIS by allegedly trying to travel to Syria to join the group. He also allegedly lied to obtain a replacement passport after a family member took away his original passport in an effort to prevent him from traveling.⁸⁹
- April 3, 2015: Keonna Thomas, also known as Fatayat Al Khilafah, was charged with attempting to provide material support to ISIS by attempting to travel overseas and join the group. She allegedly had applied for a passport and had told an associate that she had deactivated her Twitter account “till I leave for sham [greater Syria] . . . don’t want to draw attention of the kuffar.”⁹⁰
- April 9, 2015: Joshua Ray Van Haften was arrested in Chicago and charged with attempting to provide material support to ISIS. He had allegedly left the United States on August 26, 2014, and traveled to Istanbul, then on to Syria before returning to the United States in April 2015.⁹¹ Van Haften allegedly told a number of people that he sympathized with ISIS.⁹²
- April 20, 2015: Six men from Minnesota were charged with conspiring and attempting to provide material support to ISIS by seeking to travel to and join the group in Syria.⁹³
- May 14, 2015: Bilal Abood was charged with making a false statement to the FBI regarding his travel plans to the Middle East. Abood allegedly admitted that he wished to

⁸⁷ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/national/isis-suspects/>.

⁸⁸ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/national/isis-suspects/>.

⁸⁹ <http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/orange-county-california-man-charged-new-indictment-attempting-provide-material-support-isil>.

⁹⁰ <https://www.fbi.gov/philadelphia/press-releases/2015/philadelphia-woman-arrested-on-suspicious-of-trying-to-join-isil>.

⁹¹ <http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/madison-wisconsin-man-charged-attempting-provide-material-support-isil>.

⁹² <https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/national/isis-suspects/>.

⁹³ <http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/six-minnesota-men-charged-conspiracy-provide-material-support-islamic-state-iraq-and-levant>.

go to Syria to fight the Assad regime as part of the Syrian Free Army, but a search of Abood's computer allegedly revealed that he had previously pledged allegiance to ISIS.⁹⁴

- May 22, 2015: Muhanad Badawi and Nader Elhuzayel were arrested and charged with conspiring to provide material support to ISIS. They allegedly used social media to discuss ISIS and terrorism, expressed the desire to die as martyrs, and had made arrangements for Elhuzayel to go to the Middle East to join the group.⁹⁵
- May 27, 2015: Leon Nathan Davis pled guilty to attempting to provide material support to ISIS by trying to fly to the Middle East to join the group. Davis was already a convicted felon who was arrested at the airport on a parole violation.⁹⁶
- June 11, 2015: Reza Niknejad, with help from his friend Ali Shukri Amin, traveled to Syria to join ISIS. After leaving, he allegedly told his mother that he would “fight against these people who oppress the Muslims.”⁹⁷
- June 29, 2015: Alaa Saadeh was arrested for allegedly conspiring to provide material support to ISIS by attempting to join the group, as well as for aiding and abetting others' attempts to join ISIS. His brother, Nader Saadeh, was charged on August 10, 2015 for also attempting to join ISIS. Nader allegedly had researched flights to Turkey and had received contact information for an ISIS contact near the Turkey/Syria border.⁹⁸
- August 11, 2015: Muhammad Oda Dakhalla, the son of an Imam in Mississippi, and his wife Jaelyn Delshaun Young, were charged with conspiracy to provide material support to ISIS by traveling to Syria and join the group. Both Dakhalla and Young allegedly had expressed their readiness to travel to join ISIL, and they had made arrangements to travel to Istanbul.⁹⁹ The two allegedly planned to use their honeymoon as a cover story for their travels.¹⁰⁰

⁹⁴ <http://www.justice.gov/usao-ndtx/pr/iraqi-born-us-citizen-arrested-making-false-statement-fbi>.

⁹⁵ <http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/two-california-men-arrested-charges-conspiring-provide-material-support-isil>.

⁹⁶ <https://www.fbi.gov/atlanta/press-releases/2015/georgia-man-pleads-guilty-to-attempting-to-provide-material-support-to-isil>.

⁹⁷ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/national/isis-suspects/>.

⁹⁸ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/national/isis-suspects/>.

⁹⁹ <http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/mississippi-couple-charged-conspiracy-and-attempt-provide-material-support-isil>.

¹⁰⁰ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/national/isis-suspects/>;
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/national/isis-suspects/>.

- September 9, 2015: Samuel Rahamin Topaz pleaded guilty to having conspired to provide material support to ISIS. He sought to travel overseas with others to join and fight with ISIS.¹⁰¹
- September 17, 2015: Ali Saleh, who allegedly repeatedly attempted to travel to the Middle East to join ISIS was charged with providing material support to ISIS. Saleh had allegedly used Twitter to communicate with ISIS, and had written on Twitter that “I’m ready to die for the Caliphate, prison is nothing.”¹⁰²

¹⁰¹ <http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/new-jersey-man-pleads-guilty-conspiring-provide-material-support-isis>.

¹⁰² <https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/national/isis-suspects/>.